

**Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
for
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
6:30pm – 8:30 pm**

**Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center
10631 Vinedale Street
Sun Valley, CA 91352**

Board Member	Title	Status
Angelica Dueñas	President	Present
Julie Monroy	1 st Vice President	Present
Mike O’Gara	2 nd Vice President	Present
Robert Lim	Treasurer	Present
Karina Garcia Valles	Secretary	Present
Gary Aggas	Board Member	Present
Linda Housden	Board Member	Present
Imelda Padilla	Board Member	Absence excused
Susan A. Bartlett	Board Member	Present
Monica Vacas	Board Member	Absence excused
Art Kalantarian	Board Member	Present
Vic Hernandez	Board Member	Absent
Gerry Prieto	Board Member	Absent
Guy Dionne	Board Member	Present
Josephine Navares	Board Member	Absent
Nicholas Dalton Pawle	Board Member	Present
Fern Romans	Board Member	Absent
Carmen Perez	Board Member	Present
Luis Medina	Board Member	Absence excused
Stella Arrington	Board Member	Present

ITEM 1: Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Code of Civility, Roll Call

- Angelica called the meeting to order at approximately 6:33 PM.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Code of Civility was read
- Angelica took roll

ITEM 2: Opening Remarks (President)

- none

ITEM 2A: Ethics and Open Government Training – Reminder for the members of the SVANC to complete Ethics and Open Government Training for City Officials. Please visit: <http://ethics.lacity.org/education/education.cfm>

- Mrs. Dueñas reminded the board members who have not completed the Ethics training to please do so as soon as possible.

ITEM 3: Emergency Personnel from Fire and Police Departments will always be allowed to address the Board when they are ready in order to facilitate their schedule. (Officer Esther Vasquez, Senior Lead Officer, and Officer Michelle Rodriguez, Senior Lead Officer).

- Officer Vasquez reported that overall crime is down in Sun Valley. The crime stats include a robbery at Tujunga and Saticoy which involved the use of a knife; 11 carjackings in the in the Foothill Area and 3 in Sun Valley; 1 homicide incident in North Hollywood.
- Officer Vasquez stated that the Homeless Registry effort was very successful.

- Officer Vasquez said that the Foothill Division Station will hold an open house on October 8th, 2011, from 11:00 am- 4:00 pm. Everyone is welcomed.

ITEM 4: Presentation/announcements from **elected officials** or their representatives.

- Mary Benson, CD2 Field Representative, stated that all stakeholders are welcomed to call Councilmember Krekorian's office with comments, requests, inquiries that would otherwise be made to Bureau of Street Services. These may include but are not limited to tree services, street cleaning, vacant lots, etc. The service area includes the East side of Glenoaks. If anyone has questions please contact Mary Benson by calling (818) 352-3287 or via email at mary.benson@lacity.org.
- Olga Ayala, CD6 Field Representative, congratulated Graffiti Busters for the great job they do in keeping Sun Valley community clean of graffiti.
- Ms. Ayala announced that CD6's new chief of staff is Mr. Jim Dantona.
- Ms. Ayala announced a Lake Balboa Coastal Clean Up and Children's Day event to be held on October 27th, 2011.
- Ms. Ayala stated that ICON, the business-assistance, business-watch, program was eliminated two years ago. However there are efforts to reinstate this program. Ms. Ayala introduced Ms. Loraine Garcia to speak about this program, who shared the following information:
 - Loraine Garcia, Business Watch-Business Coalition, stated that the group holds bi-monthly meetings in Arleta. Ms. Garcia said that the Business watch group is a collaboration between businesses in order to keep businesses safe. It is similar to the same concept as the neighborhood watch system but this is for businesses. Ms. Garcia added that Business Watch is a business –assisted program, through which businesses are assisted to get loans, licenses, permits, etc. Workshops like how to 'Market your Business', and how to 'Increase your Business' cash flow are held periodically for businesses. Ms. Garcia can be reached by calling (818) 899-3636.
- Ms. Ayala gave an update on the septic tank problem that stakeholder Ms. Maria Alcazar mentioned during the public comment period at SVANC's meeting in August, 2011, where she asked for assistance to resolve her house's septic tank problem. Ms. Ayala stated that she went to various City Departments and found that this house is a 1-bedroom house to which was added an extension/additional gathering-place room. Even though the number of people using this home increased, there was never an upgrade to the 'capacity' of the septic tank, therefore it collapsed because it was originally built for a 1-bedroom house capacity, thus now it is being used beyond its capacity.
- Quincy, Assembly member Fuentes, announced that the Assembly member's state session ended last Friday, he is back in town and is available to meet with stakeholders by calling or via email to make an appointment.
- Quincy stated that Elmer Street held a Street clean-up last Saturday, September 10th, 2011, which was well attended and a great success.
- Quincy stated that Assembly Bill 1069 will extend tax credit to film companies to continue filming in California. He added that over the past three years about \$500 million dollars have been allocated from the tax credit which has generated about \$2.2 billion dollars in California.
- Quincy brought for stakeholders an updated community toll free and community guide
- Gemma, Senator Padilla's office, said that the California State Assembly Committees on Natural Resources and on Appropriations both voted in favor of Senate Bill 292, the bill to expedite legal challenges to Farmers Field, Anschutz Entertainment Group's \$1.2 billion proposed football stadium in downtown Los Angeles.
- Gemma also announced the Heal the Bay Coastal Clean Up which will be held at Lake Balboa and Tujunga Wash.
- Gemma also thanked SVANC for their sponsorship and support of the Citizenship Workshop held last Saturday, September 10th, 2011. She added that about 400 people attended.

ITEM 5A: Presentation from the "Watch the Road" promotion. Promotion to educate the community to slow down while driving on school and park roads.

- Erick Wright, LADOT student worker, works with the Watch-the-Road program. Mr. Wright said that the program has been integrated in about 12 schools downtown L.A., with the goal to teach traffic safety and to get more kids to walk and bike to school. He added that this will help prevent childhood obesity, will help with the environment and will help relieve congestion in front of the schools where a lot of accidents occur. Workshops are set-up to teach kids how to ride a bike safely, and helmets, bicycles, and bike racks are given away for free. Mr. Wright stated that he recently teamed up with Mike O. and the rest of SVANC's board in giving away 110 of the watch-the-road lawn signs. The lawn signs have SVANC's logo and info and LADOT's info printed on them. He added that the lawn signs' goal is to have them placed on the front lawns, on private properties, in order to help prevent any incidents in residential areas

where cars are driving too fast in school zones, near parks, etc.

ITEM 6: Public Comment on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Members of the public are **limited to three (3) minutes** per speaker.

- Claudia and Vanessa, Caltrans I5 Corridor Outreach Team, announced that the Caltrans improvement project of the I5 is divided into two segments the South is the Orange County line to the 605; and the North is the 134 to the current county line. Brochures were distributed which include the website for information regarding construction notices or closure lists weekly and the toll-free hotline.
- Jack W. stated that he is running for the State Assembly and asked for everyone's support of his candidacy.
- Jose Perez and Raul Barraza, Polytechnic HS's Leadership class, said that it was brought to their attention that there is trash on the area of Roscoe and Arleta and stated that on October 7th, 2011 the students are planning on cleaning up that area. They asked for SVANC's support to buy trash bags, gloves, or any other material needed for the clean-up. The students also invited SVANC to participate in the HS's homecoming event—to have a float, a classic car for the parade.

ITEM 6A: Board member comments on matters within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction. Board members are limited to **three (3) minutes** per speaker; and additional discussion time if request is made to place an item on an agenda of a future meeting.

- Nick announced that next Thursday he will be meeting with the new Executive Director of the Theodore Payne Foundation to discuss ways to collaborate to raise their profile and SVANC's profile, and in the meantime look for ways to esthetically improve and enhance Sun Valley in the process.
- Karina announced that the pink copies of the minutes distributed are for July and August, and that they are not duplicates.
- Rob stated that the Rob and Mike have been attending the VANC, Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, meetings for the last few months. He said that last month the guest speaker was Nazario Saucedo, Interim Executive Director for the Bureau of Street Services, who emphasized the importance of community involvement in reporting potholes. This vision coincides with a project Mike O. will launch in the near future called the 'Sun Valley Pothole Patrol'. Mr. Saucedo also mentioned the near future creation of an interactive website through which a display of the location of the potholes could be found.
- Rob also talked about the suggestion of getting a stop-sign/traffic light installed on Stratten and Fair Avenues. Rob is still working on the process of getting the City's work order finalized and in process for the installation of one of this traffic controls.
- Susan announced that Saturday, September 17th, 2011, is Children's Day at Griffith Park, from 9:00 am – 03:00 pm. She added that it is an event sponsored by the LAPD.
- Susan stated that Thursday, September 15th, 2011, the Chamber of Commerce is participating in a mixer with the American Legion Post at Sunland Blvd., between (inaudible) and La Tuna Canyon, from 05:30 pm to 07:30 pm.
- Susan was congratulated by various fellow Board members for the great job done on Glenoaks, between Pendleton and Penrose.

OLD Business:

ITEM 7: Review, correct and approve minutes from our July 2011 and August 2011 Board meeting. (GARCIA-VALLES)

- Mike made a motion to approve the July 2011 minutes as amended and was seconded by Art
- The motion carried
- Mike made a motion to approve the August 2011 minutes as amended and was seconded by Karina
- The motion carried

NEW Business:

ITEM 8: Committee Reports - Outreach- Planning- Community Affairs- By-Laws —Treasurer

- Outreach Committee – none
- Planning Committee – Mike stated that Vulcan presented an application to alter about four items in their present application, like hours of operation, parking 368 trucks etc. Even though the zoning administrator's meeting took place on August 16th, 2011 and since more changes were recommended at that meeting, SVANC had three additional weeks to respond, therefore Mike held a special meeting to respond via a letter. Mike cc'd a copy of the letter to the rest of SVANC's board members.
- Community Affairs – Susan's comments were inaudible. Mrs. Dueñas stated that 'the item' Susan mentioned which was inaudible will be added as an 'action item' for next month's meeting.
- By-Laws Committee – none
- Treasurer's Report: Rob said that he will no longer be available as of next month because he will be starting graduate school. Rob announced that the Treasurer's duties will be distributed amongst the members of the

Budget & Finance committee members. Rob will still generate the reports, and the tentative plan is for Julie to give the report and for Mike O. to process the demand warrants. Rob also said that a possibility that is being considered is to sub-contract an Accountant to process the quarterly reconciliation and this subcontracting will possibly be organized with a number of other NCs in order to share the cost of this service.

- Rob stated that the report of the amount of unencumbered funds requested by Guy Dionne can be found on page 2 of the report distributed to all of SVANC's members at this meeting. The amount unencumbered is \$15,371.84, which means that the City swept these funds.
- Rob read the following report for August 2011 Purchase Card Transactions:

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount	Purchaser
08/03/2011	Spicer's Paper Inc.	Paper stock for office	\$727.40	M. O'Gara
08/11/2011	Papa John's	Pizza for July Board Meeting	\$53.76	R. Lim
09/07/2011	Home Depot	Zip Ties	\$21.71	R. Lim
09/09/2011	Ralphs	Water for Refreshments	\$16.50	R. Lim
09/13/2011	Time Warner	Phone and Internet (office)	\$382.00	R. Lim
		Total Spent:	\$1201.37	

- Rob also read SVANC's current balance of \$38,551.82.
- Julie made a motion to approve the treasurer's report with the correction of the year to be 2011 and was seconded by Karina.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 9: Mayor's Budget Representative updates (LIM)

- None. Rob asked to have this Item removed from future SVANC's agenda.

ITEM 10: Report of Citizenship Workshop sponsored by SVANC on September 10th 2011 (MONROY-CANTOR)

- Julie stated that the event was a great success, thus turning out to be one of the biggest events that SVANC has sponsored and been so actively involved in organizing.
- Ms. Monroy thanked all the stakeholders and SVANC's board members who helped and assisted with the planning, organizing and execution of this event. Ms. Monroy added that all attendees were provided service and citizen application filing options.
- Ms. Monroy said that a meeting will be held on September 20th, 2011 to do a recount of the final number of attendees.
- Rob specifically thanked Mike O. and Julie for their efforts and hard work to organize and participate in this event.
- Mike O. individually thanked some of the event's sponsors, which include but are not limited to: Donut Den, Aldo from AAA copy machines, OMG supplied the soda pop, and Daniel's tacos.
- Angelica also extended her gratitude to everyone who helped with this event and added that Josefina brought 13 volunteer students from the Leadership program at Sun Valley HS.

ITEM 11: Report of the SFV Homeless Coalition organized a Homeless Registry project, which SVANC was a part of. (VACAS)

- Mike O. stated that Linda, Gary, Monica and he were out in the community at 4:00 am, canvassing the homeless for three consecutive days. He added that SVANC decided to work with the Homeless Registry project in an effort to get a count of/to register homeless people in an effort to advocate for permanent housing for the chronically homeless people. Mike also added that a place called Glendale's Gardens is opening up across the street from Ralph's on Glenoaks. It's a 60-apartment homeless apartment building and the applications for this project need to be presented no later than Thursday, September 15th, 2011.

ITEM 12: Motion/Discussion/ Vote to support LAANE's apartment trash pickup franchise and to adopt the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council's Resolution in support of a Rational Waste & Recycling System for Los Angeles' Commercial and Multi Family Properties. (O'GARA)

- Mike O. said that this issue was brought up by fellow board member Imelda Padilla who could not be present for this month's meeting. Mike O. introduced Francisco to speak on this project.
- Francisco asked for questions from the attendees.
- *Karina asked:* If LAANE is participating in any special way with the Sun Valley vendor trash companies?

- Francisco answered: The vendors are involved in the process; the Bureau of Sanitation is presenting this proposal. He added that LAANE, as a coalition, has a proposal of the changes it wants to see made, but the Bureau of Sanitation is creating a franchise system. Francisco added that LAANE has been doing surveys and has been talking to neighbors in different communities and businesses to try to get the word out.
- Mike made a motion to pass this resolution as written and then send it to the City. It was seconded by Rob.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 13: Motion/Discussion/ Vote to send a Community Impact Statement to the City Council advising them that we are against the passage of the proposed REVISED Citywide sign ordinance. (O’GARA) **ITEM 14:** Motion/Discussion/Vote to create a letter of support addressed to the Councilman and DWP saying that indeed we are in favor of a community garden being built in the community. (DUEÑAS)

- Mike said that the it started out that they were going to put new signs up and retire the old signs, but now they have 12 or 13 exemptions for large places that don’t have to follow through with that and essentially they could declare an exemption for one square block and we are trying to make it a larger area. Mike stated that so many exemptions are unwanted.
- Mike made a motion to send this Community Impact Statement to the City Council and was seconded by Nick.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 14: Motion/Discussion/ Vote to create a letter of support addressed to the Councilmember and DWP stating that indeed SVANC is in favor of a community garden being built in the community. (DUEÑAS)

- Angelica stated that Olga Ayala announced that there was a possibility of bringing two community gardens to Sun Valley and they are asking for SVANC’s support via a letter, therefore Ms. Dueñas asked for approval of this letter. Mrs. Dueñas added that one garden will be located near Sheldon and Glenoaks and the other one will be located near Alex and Peoria.
- Ms. Dueñas made a motion to approve the letter and was seconded by Julie.
- The motion carried

ITEM 15: Motion/Discussion/Possible Vote to write a letter to Zoning & Planning Administration Requiring TRANSIT SYSTEMS Unlimited Inc. 8976 Laurel Cyn Blvd ZA 2011-1684; AND the 2 Story Project at 7626-7634 N. Vineland Ave project # ENV-2009-1350-MND (O’GARA).

- Mike said that he is working on the Transit Systems Unlimited Inc., project. It is a bus company that has 12 buses on Laurel Canyon right next to Big Jim’s. Mike said that the Gas Co., has ran a gas line in there and has installed a compressed natural gas system. Mike stated that the buses presently run on CNG but the company’s administrator has to send the buses to Burbank to fill up; Mike added that it is a good project since the more CNG-ran vehicles we have running in the community, the sooner the use of diesel will be eliminated.
- Mike made a motion requesting the Board to give permission to the Planning Committee to write a letter for this project and was seconded by Art
- The motion carried
- Mike asked Tony Castro to talk about the 2-story project at 7626 – 7634 North Vineland Ave., project.
- Mr. Castro showed as illustrations the changes that were suggested to the old building at previous meetings. Mr. Castro stated that it is a 2-story, 22,000-square-foot building on Vineland Avenue. Mike stated that it was suggested that the interior spaces have solar lighting which can be done with LED lights.
- Mike made a motion to approve the second part of this item related to project # ENV-2009-1350-MND and was seconded.
- The motion carried.

ITEM 16: PUBLIC COMMENT – none

ITEM 17: Adjournment – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 08:30 and was seconded.

- The motion carried.